

Rep. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-02) joined his fellow co-chairs of the Congressional and Senate Military Family Caucus yesterday to unveil a crisis and suicide prevention public service announcements (PSAs) campaign for service members, military families and veterans. The PSAs feature touching comments from several celebrities reminding service members and their families that they are not alone, and that help is available.

"As our troops have come home from Iraq and Afghanistan, we have seen a dramatic rise in cases of PTSD and the number of suicides," said Rep. Bishop. "But the reality is, we have an obligation to care for those men and women who volunteered to defend our country, and this campaign is a great step towards reducing the number of suicides and providing the help our troops and their families and our veterans deserve."

Blue Star Families and The Creative Coalition, in partnership with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) and Health Net, Inc. came together to create the public service announcements. The PSAs, titled "I Don't Know What It's Like," makes clear that while the general public cannot understand what it is like to serve abroad or stay home after a loved one deploys, a grateful nation is here for them.

The PSAs were filmed during the Sundance Film Festival and Academy Awards earlier this year.

###